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JAN 26 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Mohamad El-Batal et al.

Docket No.: LSI.76US01 (03-1070)

Application No.: 10/660,889

Examiner: Michael V. Datskovskiy

Filed: September 12, 2003

Art Unit: 2835

For: Data Storage System With A Removable Backplane Having An Array
Of Disk Drives

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 26, 2005, made final, and the Advisory Action dated December 12, 2005, kindly enter the following AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS and consider the accompanying REMARKS.

The AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS are set forth beginning on page 2 of this PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT.

REMARKS are set forth beginning on page 6 of this PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT.